

What a Lie Did.

Arkansas Traveller.

I once had an example of how well it is to tell the truth, said a gentleman who was once a prominent candidate for Governor of Arkansas. Some time ago I was travelling on horse-back through a very lonely part of the country. I was never a brave man, and I was not in the least surprised upon discovering that I was scared. Every rustle of the leaves, every sudden cry of a bird startled me. I couldn't think of anything but robbers and desperadoes, and shuddered as I remembered a man who, years ago, had been found in the woods murdered in cold blood. Every feature of the ghastly face came up, and I turned sick when the gaping wound in his throat came up with startling verisimilitude.

While I thus reflected, a short turn of the lonely road, winding around a thickly wooded hill, brought me almost face to face with two men who seemed to be standing for me. Their horses were hitched to a neighboring grape-vine, and the suggestive manner in which they looked at the animal I was riding sent a thrill like a streak of ice-water up my back. I saw at once that they were desperate men, and felt that they would not hesitate to kill me. Flight was out of the question, for any such move on my part would, I was convinced, prove certain death. For the first time in my life I resolved to play the bully, and, assuming what I fancied was an unconcerned expression, I said, "Good-morning."

"How are you?" they replied. "Going far?"

"I don't know that it is any of your business," I replied. "I don't want any trouble with you, for I have decided to lead a better life. Never again do I want it said that I shed the blood of a human being."

"A bad man, I reckon," said one of the desperadoes.

"At one time I could not have denied such an accusation; but, as I tell you, I have resolved never to kill another man. I hope that you will not molest me."

"Hold on, pardner!"

"I've got no time to talk."

"But hold on! What's your name?"

"I'm Bill Potson, the outlaw, and the man of whom you have often heard. I have killed men for less than this, and I don't want you to cause a breaking of my resolve."

"Do as you like about your resolve," said the taller of the desperadoes. "I'd like to give you a bit of advice. I don't know who you are, but I know that you are not Bill Potson, the robber."

"How do you know?"

"Because I am Bill Potson, and this is my brother."

"Oh, Lord!" I supplicated; "have mercy on me!"

"Climb off that horse, Cap; I reckon we'd better hang you right here."

I begged, but I saw no mercy in their eyes; I prayed, but I heard no answer.

"I'll teach you how to go around the country committing depredations and laying them on to me! Fine man, you are! Stole this horse, I reckon. John, get that rope off my saddle. We'll swing him up right here."

"Oh, my kind friends! I have committed no depredations. I am a candidate for Governor of Arkansas, and am on my way to meet an appointment at a place of discussion. You wouldn't hang a Governor, would you? Just think of what your State would lose!"

"Who is your opponent?"

"Col. Blacket."

"What sort of a fellow is he?"

"He's a bad man."

"Are you well acquainted with him?"

"I never saw him, but know that he's a bad man."

"He's a much better man than you are, or at least will soon exhibit more capacity for executive duties than you can possibly show. In short he'll be the liveliest man pretty soon."

They put the rope around my neck. I prayed in vain. I asked the Lord to forgive my sins, and closed my eyes, every moment expecting to be drawn up.

"If I let you go will you promise never again to use my name?"

"I swear I won't. Let me live and I'll be a better man. I'll do anything for you, and when I'm elected Governor I will pardon you."

"All right; you may go this time. Take off the rope, John."

I mounted my horse and rode away, with tearful thankfulness and a determination never to tell another lie. Next day when I reached the place of discussion, a large crowd had gathered. When I approached the people were shouting with laughter. Great Alexander! Some one was relating my experience. Shoving my way forward, I recognized in the speaker the tall man who had accused me of taking his name. He was my opponent. I could not face the crowd, and left as

rapidly as possible. The whole thing was a joke. At the election I was defeated by an overwhelming majority.

Quantity of Seed to an Acre.

The following should be kept for reference: "Barley, broadcast, 2 or 3 bushels; bean, pole, in hills, 10 to 12 quarts; beets, in drills, 5 to 6 pounds; broom corn in hills, 8 to 10 quarts; buckwheat, 1 bushel; cabbage, in beds, to transplant, half-pound; carrots, in drills, 3 to 4 pounds; Chinese sugar cane, 12 quarts; clover, red, alone, 15 to 20 pounds; clover, alsike, alone, 8 to 10 pounds; clover, lucerne or alfalfa, 20 pounds; corn, in hills, 8 to 10 quarts; corn for silage, 8 bushels; cucumber, in hills, 2 pounds; flax, broadcast, 1 1/2 bushels; grass, Kentucky blue, 3 bushels; grass, orchard, 3 bushels; grass, English rye, two bushels; grass, red top, 3 bushels; grass, timothy, one-half bushel; grass, Hungarian, 1 bushel; grass, mixed lawn, 4 bushels; hemp, 1 bushel; mustard, broadcast, 1 bushel; melon, musk, in hills, 2 to 3 pounds; melon, water, in hills, 4 to 5 pounds; millet, common, broadcast, 1 bushel; oats, broadcast, 2 to 3 bushels; onion, in drills, 5 to 6 pounds; onions for sets, in drills, 30 pounds; onion, sets, in drills, 6 to 12 bushels; parsnip, in drills, 4 to 6 pounds; peas, in drills, 1 1/2 bushels; peas, broadcast, 3 bushels; potatoes (cut tubers), 10 bushels; pumpkin, in hills, 4 to 6 pounds; radish, in drills, 8 to 10 pounds; rye, broadcast 1 1/2 to 2 bushels; salsify, in drills, 8 to 10 pounds; spinach, in drills, 12 to 15 pounds; sage, in drills, 8 to 10 pounds; squash, bush varieties, in hills, 4 to 6 pounds; squash, running varieties, hills, three to four pounds; tomato, to transplant, one-quarter pound; turnip, in drills, 1 pound; turnip, broadcast, half-pound; vetches, broadcast, 2 to 3 bushels, and wheat, broadcast, 1 1/2 to 2 bushels."

Lost Rivers in the West.

About nine miles above the town, on the line of the old military road, the little Santa Cruz river disappears forever, working one of those strange phenomena so often found in this country—lost rivers. Old residents say that you can hear its rumbling underground. It could no doubt be recovered. This furnishes a plain illustration of the theory so often broached of the existence of subterranean streams, from which it is possible to secure what in this arid belt may be regarded as an ample supply of water. A friend predicts that it will not be ten years before the chief assaults of the Eastern press on the corrupt and lavish expenditure for internal improvements will no longer be directed towards rivers and harbors, but that it will hinge upon a more or less comprehensive scheme for the preservation of water, the means of its distribution, the construction of reservoirs, and the recovery of lost rivers, with expensive plans of forestry; all of which my friend declares Congress will be considering, and the country east of the Mississippi opposing. The people here aver that one-half of the vast mountain table land, which within the boundary of the United States may be roughly estimated at 1,000 miles north and south the same distance east and west, can be reclaimed and the water to be found within it, may be made entirely useful for agricultural and pastoral purposes.—Arizona letter.

Eggs as Food.

The Boston Journal of Chemistry says: Eggs, at average prices, are among the cheapest and most nutritious articles of diet. Like milk, an egg is a complete food in itself, containing everything necessary for the development of a perfect animal, as is made manifest from the fact that a chick is formed from it. It seems a mystery that muscles, bones, feathers, and everything that a chick requires for its perfect development are made from the white and yolk of an egg; but such is a fact, and it shows how complete a food an egg is. It is also easily digested if not damaged by cooking. Indeed there is no more concentrated and nourishing food than eggs. The albumen oil and saline matter are, as in milk, in the right proportion for sustaining animal life. Two or three boiled eggs, with the addition of a slice or two of toast, will make a sufficient breakfast for a man, and good enough for a king.

—No intercourse between Galveston and Havana and Vera Cruz will be permitted until after November 1st on account of the prevalence of yellow fever in the latter ports.

A PARTY of young men dined sumptuously at a restaurant, and each one insisted on paying the bill. To decide the matter it was proposed to blindfold the waiter, and the first one caught should pay the bill. He hasn't caught any of them yet.

Those people in whom heart and understanding balance each other develop late.

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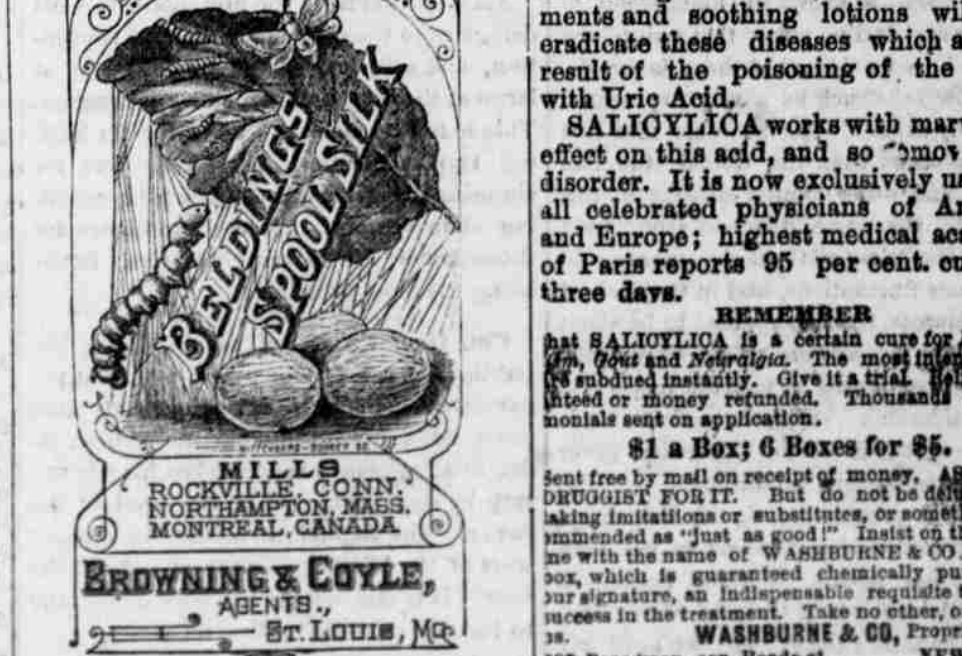
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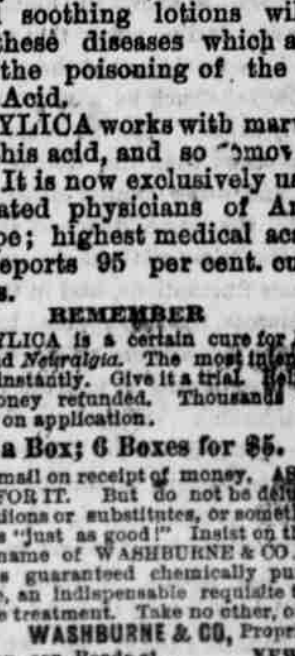
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